

Clark Street Subway To Be Opened April 1

Three New Tunnels Within Year to Lighten Burdens of Tubes, Whitney Says

Direct Lines to Brooklyn

Montague and 60th Street Projects to Give Better Service to the Beaches

The Clark Street subway will be opened by April 1, Travis H. Whitney, acting chairman of the Public Service Commission, announced last night in a statement to The Tribune. The Montague Street tunnel, he said, would be in operation in eight or nine months and the Sixth Street tube to Queens by January, 1920.

Thus within a year three great new arteries, linking Manhattan with Brooklyn and Queens, will relieve the congestion occasioned by the use of the Centre Street loop as the only tunnel of the dual system.

The Clark Street tunnel, the first of the new interborough connections to be finished, lacks only signal and electrical work and station finish to be thrown open to the travelling public, according to Chairman Whitney. The tracks were completed a week ago.

"Through the Clark Street tunnel, the express trains of the West Side subway, instead of stopping at Wall and William Streets, Manhattan, will go direct to Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn," Chairman Whitney explained.

Changing To Be Eliminated

This will make it possible for Brooklyn passengers to get trains for either the East or West Side subways without changing. It will mean greater speed and better service all around."

To lessen the congestion at Atlantic Avenue, an extension of the subway to Prospect Park Plaza will be ready for service in three or four months, Whitney stated. He said that this would carry many people to their homes, who would otherwise be compelled to change at Atlantic Avenue for surface cars, which are already overcrowded. The direct rapid transit connection with Manhattan will also put a large new residential district.

This branch is eventually to be extended from Prospect Park Plaza to Eastern Parkway, with a two-track spur down Nostrand avenue. Because of construction and labor difficulties, this portion of the work will not be opened for another year, according to the Public Service officials.

Through Service to Coney

Artery No. 2, to receive the overcrowding is the Montague street tunnel, which Mr. Whitney predicted, would be in use in eight or nine months. This opening will, by the use of the direct access from the hotels, theatres and restaurants of Times Square to the cooling breezes of Brighton Beach and Coney Island.

"The Montague street tunnel will hook up the Brighton Beach line with the Broadway (Manhattan) subway," said Commissioner Whitney. "It will allow the Broadway locals, which now stop at Whitehall, to go direct to the tracks of the Brighton Beach line, to go through to Coney Island."

At the same time there will be opened a two-track connection between the Brighton Beach and the Fourth Avenue subways. This will run from the Montague Street to Atlantic Avenue, and will bring Brighton Beach express trains into the Fourth Avenue subway.

The northward extension of the Broadway subway will provide the direct line for the express cars. In three or four months, according to Whitney, the Broadway subway will be opened up as far as Fifty-ninth Street. By the end of the year the construction will be finished eastward to the Sixth Street tube, under Blackwell's Island, to Queens.

Cables Are Congested

This, Not Censorship, Cause of Delay, Says Director

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Emphatic denial that delay of business communications is due to censorship has been made by the director of naval censorship, in answer to the protest of the Merchants' Association of New York. The delays were attributed to heavily congested cables and the fact that some of the cables have been damaged.

The protest of the Merchants' Association was directed particularly against delays to cables to South America. Naval communication officers declared that messages are cleared through the censor's office within two hours after the cables are received.

It was said at the Navy Department that the several complaints of the Manufacturers' Association have been thoroughly investigated and in every instance the delay was shown to have been occasioned by congested cables or by the holding up of the messages by censors of the government. It was said that it was found impossible to permit code to be more generally used in cables because of the inability to devise a system that would meet all requirements of the American trade. Further relaxations in the regulations, however, are now under consideration by the department, and if the Allied governments will agree these will soon be put into effect.

Lower Ocean Rates Asked

Essential to Building Foreign Trade, Says Export Man

Reduction of ocean freight rates is essential to the development of export trade, according to George E. Smith, president of the American Manufacturers' Export Association. The association has been investigating business conditions concerning the export trade and has sent to Washington suggestions based on the replies received. "The present ocean freight rates," he said, "are a serious barrier to the development of our best interests and demand the promotion of America's overseas commerce. This being so, it is high time that our government and our business men get together to formulate a definite shipping policy which will give American exporters a chance to survive."

"If the nation will now establish cheap ocean freight rates in American ships, even at a loss, an export trade will be built up which will in time compel favorable trade routes and cheap freights without government assistance."

Broadway to Help Open Longacre Square Hut

"Jimmie" Kelly, Decorated for Lost Battalion Exploit, in Charge of K. of C. Place

Broadway will join in the housewarming with which the Knights of Columbus hut will be opened Sunday night in Longacre Square, Broadway, Seventh Avenue and Forty-sixth Street. Edgar Selwyn will put on a vaudeville show; there will be addresses by officials of the New York Council of the Knights of Columbus, and then the hut, one of the best of the war service buildings in the city, will be turned over to "Jimmie" Kelly, as secretary in charge.

Kelly was awarded the War Cross of France for having supplied cigarettes and candy to the famous "Lost Battalion" of the 77th Division while it was cut off by superior forces of Germans in the Argonne Forest. When Colonel Whittlesey and his men were definitely located in the forest, Kelly provided himself with a supply of tobacco and sweets, entered a combat airplane and dropped his supplies to the men as the machine flew low over their position. He is now in Washington, but is expected here before the end of the week.

The new hut, which will accommodate 300 men, is to be kept open continuously. Kelly, being assisted by Michael J. O'Hara, has a library, lounge and reading and writing rooms. Everything will be free to men in uniform.

The building will be outlined in colored lights with a big "K. C." over the door.

Homesick Patient Escapes Hospital Twice in "Nightie"

Jacob Freeman Shocks Folks of Brownsville, but Gets to His Own Bed, Despite Police, and Stays There

Wearing a nightshirt and an expression of high resolve, Jacob Freeman, twenty-two years old, demonstrated to shocked Brownsville yesterday that there is no place like home. Frightened nurses and amazed physicians were convinced when Jacob, who up until noon had lain as helpless upon his bed in the private hospital at East New York and Williams avenues, leaped from his couch, galloped through the ward and rushed downstairs to freedom.

Police officers who started in pursuit of the patient, who was dressed in a nightie, were made aware of Jacob's overwhelming desire to get to 182 Sackman Street by the manner in which he coursed through the streets, garbed like a rosy-footed dwarf.

Those who missed this exhibition of the homesick inmate converts later, when after the fugitive had been rounded up and returned to his bed in the hospital, he did it all over again. This time he got home.

Feared He Wouldn't Live

Jacob was taken to the hospital to undergo a slight operation. Although the authorities of the institution had done their utmost to cheer him up, Jacob plain that the patient entertained scant hopes of survival. Toward noon the final effect of the other was made apparent. Jacob, who was expected to return to the bosom of his family while life was still in him.

His first attempt carried him as far as the Manhattan Crossing station of the Long Island Railroad. Here a policeman stopped him and led him back to the hospital.

Jacob was led back to his bed, but he was not content. To those who stood about him, he appeared to have just enough strength left to pull up the covers. The nurse and the physician turned away—and when they pulled the covers down he wasn't there at all.

Jacob Wins Second Time

They charged downstairs after him, leaped into an automobile at the door and started to pursue him. His first attempt to get home had taught Jacob that often the longest way round was the shortest. He ducked into a side street and the last that the baffled pursuers in the automobile saw of him was the vanishing flutter of his nightie as he bounded along the ties of the Long Island Railroad tracks.

Twenty minutes later authorities of the hospital appeared at the door of the Freeman home.

"Yes, he's home," was the answer to their anxious question. "He's in bed and he says he doesn't want to be disturbed."

There they found Jacob, apparently none the worse for his cross-country run, and loud in his assertion that he was going to stay at home. With a nurse and a physician, a doctor and a sick patient in their midst, the hospital authorities hastened to agree with him.

Placards Quote Taft Opposing Prohibition

Attorney for Brewers Declares Dry Vote in Senate Would Be Wrong to State

Placards urging the defeat of prohibition confronted churchgoers yesterday in many parts of the city. One of them quoted William Howard Taft. It said:

"Seventy-five million people in America are opposed to national prohibition. Write your legislator to defeat prohibition. The Hon. William H. Taft says: 'I am opposed to national prohibition.'"

"He is a safe, sane man. Tell your legislator to defeat ratification of the prohibition amendment," said Mr. Smith yesterday, "among the thinking men of this country that our best interests demand the promotion of America's overseas commerce."

"The amendment is in high time that our government and our business men get together to formulate a definite shipping policy which will give American exporters a chance to survive."

Senate Republicans To Caucus To-night On Bone Dry Bill

Ratification of the Federal Amendment by State Upper House With Majority of 1, Thompson Predicts

ALBANY, Jan. 26.—Unless there is a change of plans the Republican majority in the Senate will caucus to-night on the Thompson-McNab resolution ratifying the proposed bone-dry amendment to the Federal Constitution. The adoption of the resolution by the Senate is regarded as assured by the drys. Only a bolt on the part of four or more Republican Senators will prevent the jamming through of the resolution, which is urged by the drys in the name of party expediency. There are only twenty-four drys in the Senate, and if the wet Republicans refuse to enter the caucus the resolution will be lost.

Senator George F. Thompson, of Niagara, leader of the drys, arrived here to-night from New York. He said he was confident the resolution would be adopted by the Senate by a vote of at least 27 to 24. This is only one vote more than a majority. Thompson believes there is a possibility of the twenty-nine Republican votes being given to the resolution.

Senate Gets Measure To-night

The measure, which was adopted by the Assembly on Thursday by a vote of 81 to 69 after a vigorous use of the caucus, will be received in the Senate to-morrow night. In the ordinary course of business it will be in the order of third reading the following day. Only a suspension of the rules would bring it before the Senate for action to-morrow to-night, a course not likely to be pursued.

Some of the "wets" are still hopeful that the resolution will be defeated in the Senate. The Democrats, carrying out the suggestion in Governor Smith's message and their party platform pledge, introduced a resolution substituting the question to a referendum. Then there is a resolution by Senator Henry M. Sage, Republican, of Albany, chairman of the finance committee, providing for amendment to the state constitution which would prohibit the Legislature from taking any action on a proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution until the people have voiced their sentiment.

"Drys" Counting on Caucus

One of the first moves of the "wets" will be to offer either of these resolutions in the form of an amendment to the Thompson-McNab resolution. The carrying of such a motion would nullify the action of the Assembly and spell the defeat of ratification in the Legislature at this session. But the "drys" do not regard this as even a remote likelihood. They are counting on the caucus to give them the necessary votes.

There is a little speculation as to whether Governor Smith will send a message to the Senate urging it not to adopt the resolution in view of the fact that any action the Legislature may take cannot affect the situation, since more than the requisite number of states have already ratified. But the general belief is that the Governor will not interfere, because the Legislature is controlled by his political foes and for the added reason that if executive has no part in a ratification proceeding.

Returning Soldier Learns Wife Died of Grief Over Absence

Mother Breaks News to Him at Pier: He Sobs, but Braces and Marches Away to Camp With Comrades

An elderly couple from Brooklyn with a special pass from Major General Shanks went to the Cunard Line pier early yesterday to await the arrival of the troopship Caronia from Brest in the hope of seeing their son Milton K. Dodd, a private of Company E, 331st Infantry.

The father, H. L. Dodd, of 9 Spencer Court, Brooklyn, walked to the string piece and scanned the thousands of men in khaki as the Caronia warped in, but he did not see his son. Mrs. Dodd stood in a dark corner of the pier holding a box of food for her son to take to Camp Mills.

Finally a personnel officer approached the couple, saying: "Your son is on board, and when Company E comes ashore he will step out, and you may talk with him as long as time will permit. Please come this way."

Company E came ashore with brisk stride and laughter, and Private Dodd was told to step out. He laughed with his mother, but when he saw the faces of his parents that all was not well—his wife was not there.

"Where is Rosie?" he asked.

"Died, son, on November 20," said the old lady, her face white. "It was really of a broken heart. She felt that you were never coming back and just gave up."

The character of the men of Company E was loud and noisy and they did not hear their comrade's sobs.

Then came the command to fall in, and Private Milton Dodd braced himself. He grasped it, smiled upon her and was gone.

Jealousy Causes Zoo Fight

Russian Bear's Cub Killed by Envious Japanese Bruin

A Russian brown bear and a Japanese black bear got on amicably in the same cage at the New York Zoological Park, until yesterday morning, when the quick-tempered Japanese discovered the big brown Russian denoting her attention exclusively to a minute bundle of brown fur that had arrived during the night.

He objected at once and a fight ensued which keepers were powerless to stop. When it was over the tiny cub was dead and the jealous Japanese bear soundly thrashed the Russian. A keeper, hastily put up a partition between the two bears, and behind that another little brown cub was slain yesterday afternoon. He is thriving.

Soldier Falls Through Thin Ice and Is Drowned

Isidor Bleweis Ventures on the Bronx River—Would-Be Rescuer Saved

Isidor Bleweis, of 975 Union Avenue, The Bronx, a soldier in the Motor Transport Corps, was drowned yesterday in the Bronx River near the park boathouse, the third victim of thin ice there in a week. Boys have been in the habit of standing on the bluff above the river during each other to try to cross, the hazard being increased by the gantlet of park attendants that must be run.

Bleweis and Alexander Greenwald, of 400 East 134th Street, The Bronx, were on the bluff yesterday. Suddenly the soldier darted down the bank and out upon the ice. The next instant he had broken through and vanished. Greenwald ran to the rescue and also plunged into the water.

Twelve-year-old Helen Sava, of 1102 East 180th Street, ran to the edge of the river and was on the point of jumping in when other girls who were with her dragged her back. She then busied herself getting blankets, while Police Sergeant Cahill and Patrolman McManus shoved out in a rowboat. They got Greenwald to shore alive and later recovered the body of the soldier. Greenwald was taken to Fordham Hospital. It is said his condition is serious.

Socialists Urged To Get Own Halls And Newspapers

'Quit Trading With Enemy,' Advises Scott Nearing; Police Action Criticised at a Series of Meetings

A series of meetings protesting the action of the Police Department in closing various meeting places of greater New York to Socialists took place yesterday afternoon in all parts of the city.

The principal meeting was at the People's House, owned by the Socialist party, and was addressed by Dr. Scott Nearing, Socialist lecturer and under indictment for violation of the espionage act.

Nearing said he was tired of petitioning the authorities to permit the Socialists to hold meetings and was of the opinion that the only method by which the Socialist party, as well as other labor organizations, could solve the problem that confronted them was to control their own meeting halls.

"The Socialist party," he declared, "must set to work to establish its own machinery of communication and organization. We have got to have our own schools, halls and our own newspapers. We must afford to go on trading with the enemy."

Diplomacy Called Off

"I've come to the opinion," he continued, "not to have any diplomatic relations with the other side. If we want halls, we've got to own them; if we want newspapers, we've got to support them."

Nearing went on to say that in several parts of the country labor already owned its own halls and schools. "It is our duty," he declared, "that we can educate the American people from capitalism into socialism."

The Rev. G. Frazier, who is pastor of one of the negro churches of Harlem, demanded the withdrawal of Allied troops from Russia. He said if Americans were really democratic the lynchings that take place almost daily in the South could never be permitted.

Discussing Bolshevism, he said it was a peculiar thing that political like Senator Overman of North Carolina was desirous of curbing the growth of that philosophy in Russia, while in the South, which is much nearer home, anarchy in the form of lynching could not be halted.

Release of Objectors Demanded

Evan Thomas, the brother of the Rev. Norman Thomas, and released by the War Department from Fort Leavenworth, where he was held as a conscientious objector, related at the meeting the story of his release. He said the conscientious objectors, which he said were really democratic the lynchings that take place almost daily in the South could never be permitted.

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Meyer London, Socialist member of Congress from this city, spoke at Fordward Hall, 175 East Broadway. He struck to arouse public opinion against this condition. He also attacked the American labor movement because of its hostility to Socialist principles and charged the Socialists with being stir up Socialists to armed resistance.

He should organize as protest against the closing of these halls a three-day strike," said Mr. London. "Our boys died in the trenches and were told that they were fighting for democracy and now they are closing up the halls against the Socialists."

"There are provocateurs who want us to take violent measures, so that we can have an excuse to drown us in blood," he said. "We will not desert peaceable evolutionists who can drive every hall owner out of business if he closes his hall to us. Now is the time to organize powerful protest against this movement."

Zionists Get \$1,000,000 In Week for Fund

Campaign for \$3,000,000 Is Last Appeal to Charity; Loan To Be Launched

The campaign that the Zionist Organization of America is waging this year to raise \$3,000,000 for reclamation work in Palestine is the last appeal that body will make to the charity of Americans, Bernard A. Rosenblatt, a member of the executive committee, said last night at a dinner given by Judge Julian W. Mack in the Hotel Astor.

"Next year," he asserted, "we will need more and possibly larger funds, but these will be raised by issuing bonds of Liberty loan, with the resources of Palestine under a British protectorate as security."

Jacob H. Schiff also spoke. Teams were organized to carry on the campaign through the remaining weeks of its duration. Thus far, one week gone, the drive has raised about \$1,000,000.

When a Feller Needs a Friend

By BRIGGS



Mrs. O'Grady Takes Whirl At Broadway Night Life

Deputy Police Commissioner Finds Cabarets of White Way Less Naughty Than She Expected—Foresees Big Problem in Caring for Girls When City Goes Dry

By Emma Bugbee

The Dragonfly, with shimmering wings and duffy tinselled skirts, darted from the platform and came floating through the rosy haze to the quiet corner where Fifth Deputy Police Commissioner Ellen J. O'Grady was sitting.

In the semi-darkness her gay criminal smile suggested a trifle. For one revealing second she became just a tired little girl with skinny bare shoulders, who aroused Mrs. O'Grady's motherly concern.

"Aren't you cold, dearie?" Mrs. O'Grady asked.

"I'm dying with the heat, dancing in this hot place," sighed the girl.

Then they eyed each other for a moment, the Commissioner, unused to cabarets, trying all in a minute to understand the complicated young personality behind the tinsel and the rouge; the Dragonfly, unused to motherly visitors, half pleased, half amused, but wholly determined to protect herself from sympathy.

"I don't do anything but a little dancing," she muttered, and was gone.

Not a Bit "Scandalous"

The Commissioner turned back to her ginger ale and her silent contemplation of midnight in the Garden. Her keen eyes took in the strangely contrasted groups, men and women alike in nothing but their presence here beneath the rose lights, where the fantastic dancers flitted between the tables. The air grew hotter and heavier with each puff of a thousand cigarettes.

She saw heavy-set men devoting themselves to midnight breakfast with the same indifference to their feminine companions that the breakfasting male shows to his wife.

She saw couples who ate nothing, but smoked, and noted that it wasn't most meeting, their hands quite decidedly meeting over the tablecloth.

She saw girls whom she catalogued as young and others certainly not young at all, and noted that it wasn't always the most fashionably dressed who took the dry martini.

She discovered that with the advent of the Army and Navy into the night life of Broadway, ginger ale and fruit lemonade have been admitted to the regular order of things. She saw almost nothing that could be characterized as "scandalous."

Omar's Haunt Barred

All this was important and interesting to the Fifth Deputy Police Commissioner. Her position as chaperone of chief to all the young women of the city makes it necessary for her to inspect all sorts of amusement places from Grand Street to Pelham Bay. And Saturday night it was Broadway's turn.

It was at the Hotel Manhattan that I met Mrs. O'Grady and prevailed upon her to allow me to accompany her on her slumming expedition, which consisted in the beginning of herself and a woman friend.

I hear a great many stories about the "Gay White Way," she said, "and sometimes mothers write to me and tell me how worried they are about their daughters who are learning to go about nights."

I want to see these places for myself, and then I shall know how to advise the mothers. If there is anything illegal going on—if young school girls are allowed to frequent the dance halls of Broadway—the mothers must be warned, and the police women must organize to protect the girls."

We went first to the Hotel Martinique, where some one had told her the spirit of Omar Khayyam unbridled

Boston Traction System Target of Protests and Suit

Scheme Urged on New York by Hearst-Hylan Combine Fails to Pay Dividends; Called a Peril to Health

BOSTON, Jan. 26.—The so-called Boston plan of handling the traction situation, recommended to New York as a cure for the situation there by members of the Hearst-Hylan alliance, is having a stormy time in its birthplace. Not only is the public protesting against the highest rates of fare it ever has been called upon to pay, but the legality of the entire scheme is now questioned in an action which comes up in the Superior Court to-morrow.

The gist of this action is that it is unconstitutional to use money collected in taxes to pay dividends which have not been earned. The form of the action is a writ of prohibition, sued out by Representative James J. Mollen, of Charlestown, Attorney General Henry A. Atwell, who has held the law constitutional, and counsel for the Boston Elevated Railroad, have agreed to expedite the matter for submission to the full bench of the Supreme Court.

The nominal defendant is the state treasurer, who is sought to restrain from paying dividends on the capital stock of the Boston Elevated Railroad Company. The state contends while the state may assist by direct appropriation, it cannot raise a public utility, it has not the right to collect taxes to pay unearned dividends on stocks.

By the terms of the so-called Boston plan, stockholders of the Boston Elevated are guaranteed 5 per cent on their holdings for the first two years the act is in operation, 5 1/2 the next two and 6 1/2 thereafter. It is not, according to the plaintiff, earning this dividend even at the present rate of fare.

The Board of Health also has entered into the situation by demanding that the company clean up its cars. According to a survey, more than 90 per cent of the cars are dangerous to public health and a very considerable proportion are in such mechanical condition as to be dangerous to operate.

Excessive labor costs have arrested virtually all except urgently necessary building construction, according to a report issued yesterday by the Dept. of Public Safety. The report states that the construction of new buildings is being held up by the high cost of labor, which, in view of ideal weather conditions now prevailing, has become a general resumption of operations, the only bright spots were the quick turn of the tide in the military service.

Excessive Labor Costs Put Stop to Building

Contractors Unable to Take Advantage of Weather and Cheaper Material

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In New York and vicinity, the report asserts, contract awards are hardly 10 per cent of what they were in 1912. As regards government work, it says, the supervising architect of the Treasury Department has found that the lowest bids submitted for construction of forty postoffice buildings have run 10 to 80 per cent over appropriations. This excess is attributed to the increased cost of labor.

In many instances materials have been reduced, but owners are refusing to accept estimates carrying charges for labor running 10 to 30 per cent more than those prevailing last year.

Day Demands Food Prices Be Cut or He Will Open Markets

Commissioner to Establish Stores in Every Section of City if Retailers Refuse to Scale Down Charges

When Jonathan G. Day, Commissioner of Markets, comes to work this morning he will be accompanied with a determination to bring New York food prices down to where he thinks they ought to be, if he has to open improvised city markets in every neighborhood of the city.

"While food prices to the consumers have been lowered to some extent in New York, said Mr. Day, "they have not lowered in proportion to the cheaper wholesale prices now enjoyed by the retailers. In some parts of the town the retailers have done fairly well, but in many districts they have utterly failed to give their customers a fair share of the benefit of the present market prices."

"Mr. Day's first move to-day will be to demand that the owners of stalls in the city's public markets lower their prices to consumers in proportion to the lower wholesale costs. There are about 1,500 stalls, said Mr. Day, if they do not cut prices he will raise their rent or evict them. Mr. Day hopes that lower prices in public markets will influence the prices in other stores."

"But if lower public market prices do not bring cheaper food throughout the city," said Mr. Day, "I will open temporary city stores in every part of town."

"I will buy meat, butter, eggs and other foods in wholesale quantities, I'll load this food on trucks and dispatch it to all parts of the city. We will have no trouble in finding empty storerooms in which to open improvised city markets. I am sure public spirited women in a neighborhood will volunteer to run the temporary markets until a little competition brings down the prices in the regular retail stores."

Family Ill, Home Robbed

The bodies of Mr. and Mrs. John Tiller were found sitting in chairs in the kitchen of their home, 10 Linden Street, Queens. Gas was flowing from an open jet in the stove. Both husband and wife had been dead for more than twenty-four hours.

Charged with stabbing to death Adolph Murale, of Elm Park, Staten Island, Saturday night, John Prillia, a most attendant at the hospital, was held for examination by Magistrate Crook at New Brighton, Staten Island.

Two unidentified men were found dead of gas asphyxiation in the rooming house at 144 East 124th Street by Lawrence Connolly, son of the proprietor. They had been dead several hours.

Clarence Gray, sixteen, of 2215 Tilden Avenue, Brooklyn, was shot in the leg when he tried to run away from Patrolman Collins, who says he discovered him tampering with an automobile at Bedford and Tilden avenues.